

Programs How
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404454

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RESPONSIBILITY FOR RADIOLOGICAL SAFETY IN PROVING GROUND ACTIVITIES

- REFERENCE: (1) Your Dispatch DTG 48232111Z, December.
- (2) Memorandum of November 3, 1948, from A. C. Graves to Brigadier General James C. McCormack, subj: "Notification of Joint Chiefs of Staff of Laboratory Plans for a New Series of Tests at Eniwetok".

In reply to your dispatch (Reference 1), I still believe as stated in my memorandum to General McCormack (Reference 2) that discussions of responsibility for radiological safety are premature. The Military Liaison Committee may well be reluctant to commit a future Task Force Commander to a changed policy. In addition, policy on this point can be decided only with reference to policy on many other points concerning which the Task Force Commander must be consulted. For these reasons, I hope that any discussion of this subject will be held on a preliminary basis. In order to give a basis for such a discussion, I am giving my thoughts on the philosophy I now hold to be correct and the arguments therefor.

Since this question will almost surely involve the organization of a Joint Task Force, I include a diagram of a Joint Task Force organization with which I would concur. There are doubtless many other types of organization under which our task could be performed adequately and other types which I would prefer, but the one given seems more likely to be acceptable to all concerned and involves less change from that used in the previous operation.

Scope of Responsibility

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a. Minimum Requirement

Our minimum requirement is that J-Division be responsible for and establish regulations for the radiological safety of all personnel conducting tests or experiments under my direction and that J-Division train and assign monitors for such operations.

b. Atoll Responsibility

J-Division will, if requested, assist the Task Force Commander in establishing radiological safety regulations for all personnel and equipment within the Eniwetok Atoll and outside of the Atoll to some reasonable established limit. It will, if requested, provide monitors for ships and planes operating in the area at the request of the Scientific Director.

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